

## Environmental Protection Agency

## § 350.5

EPA intends to be guided by the Restatement of Torts, Section 757, Comment b.

*Unsanitized* means a version of a document from which information claimed as trade secret or confidential has not been withheld or omitted.

*Working day* is any day on which Federal government offices are open for normal business. Saturdays, Sundays, and official Federal holidays are not working days; all other days are.

[53 FR 28801, July 29, 1988, as amended at 55 FR 30644, July 26, 1990]

### **§350.3 Applicability of subpart; priority where provisions conflict; interaction with 40 CFR part 2.**

(a) *Applicability of subpart.* Sections 350.1 through 350.27 establish rules governing assertion of trade secrecy claims for chemical identity information collected under the authority of sections 303 (d)(2) and (d)(3), 311, 312 and 313 of Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, and for trade secrecy or business confidentiality claims for information submitted in a substantiation under sections 303 (d)(2) and (d)(3), 311, 312, and 313 of Title III. This subpart also establishes rules governing petitions from the public requesting the disclosure of chemical identity claimed as trade secret, and determinations by EPA of whether this information is entitled to trade secret treatment. Claims for confidentiality of the location of a hazardous chemical under section 312(d)(2)(F) of Title III are not subject to the requirements of this subpart.

(b) *Priority where provisions conflict.* Where information subject to the requirements of this subpart is also collected under another statutory authority, the confidentiality provisions of that authority shall be used to claim that information as trade secret or confidential when submitting it to EPA under that statutory authority.

(c) *Interaction with 40 CFR part 2, EPA's Freedom of Information Act procedures.* (1) No trade secrecy or business confidentiality claims other than those allowed in this subpart are permitted for information collected under sections 303 (d)(2) and (d)(3), 311, 312 and 313 of Title III.

(2) Except as provided in §350.25 of this subpart, request for access to chemical identities withheld as trade secret under this regulation is solely through this regulation and procedures hereunder, not through EPA's Freedom of Information Act procedures set forth at 40 CFR part 2.

(3) Request for access to information other than chemical identity submitted to EPA under this regulation is through EPA's Freedom of Information Act regulations at 40 CFR part 2.

### **§350.5 Assertion of claims of trade secrecy.**

(a) A claim of trade secrecy may be made only for the specific chemical identity of an extremely hazardous substance under sections 303 (d)(2) and (d)(3), a hazardous chemical under sections 311 and 312, and a toxic chemical under section 313.

(b) Method of asserting claims of trade secrecy for information submitted under sections 303 (d)(2) and (d)(3).

(1) In submitting information to the local emergency planning committee under sections 303 (d)(2) or (d)(3), the submitter may claim as trade secret the specific chemical identity of any chemical subject to reporting under section 303.

(2) To make a claim, the submitter shall submit to EPA the following:

(i) A copy of the information which is being submitted under sections 303 (d)(2) or (d)(3) to the local emergency planning committee, with the chemical identity or identities claimed trade secret deleted, and the generic class or category of the chemical identity or identities inserted in its place. The method of choosing generic class or category is set forth in paragraph (f) of this section.

(ii) A sanitized and unsanitized substantiation in accordance with §350.7 for each chemical identity claimed as trade secret.

(3) If the submitter wishes to claim information in the substantiation as trade secret or business confidential, it shall do so in accordance with §350.7(d).

(4) Section 303 claims shall be sent to the address specified in §350.16 of this regulation.

(c) Method of asserting claims of trade secrecy for information submitted under section 311.

(1) Submitters may claim as trade secret the specific chemical identity of any chemical subject to reporting under section 311 on the material safety data sheet or chemical list under section 311.

(2) To assert a claim for a chemical identity on a material safety data sheet under section 311, the submitter shall submit to EPA the following:

(i) One copy of the material safety data sheet which is being submitted to the State emergency response commission, the local emergency planning committee and the local fire department, which shall make it available to the public. In place of the specific chemical identity claimed as trade secret, the generic class or category of the chemical claimed as trade secret shall be inserted. The method of choosing generic class or category is set forth in paragraph (f) of this section.

(ii) A sanitized and unsanitized substantiation in accordance with §350.7 for every chemical identity claimed as trade secret.

(3) To assert a claim for a chemical identity on a list under section 311, the submitter shall submit to EPA the following:

(i) An unsanitized copy of the chemical list under section 311. The submitter shall clearly indicate the specific chemical identity claimed as trade secret, and shall label it "*Trade Secret.*" The generic class or category of the chemical claimed as trade secret shall be inserted directly below the claimed chemical identity. The method of choosing generic class or category is set forth in paragraph (f) of this section.

(ii) A sanitized copy of the chemical list under section 311. This copy shall be identical to the document in paragraph (c)(3)(i) of this section except that the submitter shall delete the chemical identity claimed as trade secret, leaving in place the generic class or category of the chemical claimed as trade secret. This copy shall be sent by the submitter to the State emergency response commission, the local emergency planning committee and the

local fire department, which shall make it available to the public.

(iii) A sanitized and unsanitized substantiation in accordance with §350.7 for every chemical identity claimed as trade secret.

(4) If the submitter wishes to claim information in the substantiation as trade secret or business confidential, it shall do so in accordance with §350.7(d).

(5) Section 311 claims shall be sent to the address specified in §350.16 of this regulation.

(d) Method of asserting claims of trade secrecy for information submitted under section 312.

(1) Submitters may claim as trade secret the specific chemical identity of any chemical subject to reporting under section 312.

(2) To assert a claim the submitter shall submit to EPA the following:

(i) An unsanitized copy of the Tier II emergency and hazardous chemical inventory form under section 312. (The Tier I emergency and hazardous chemical inventory form does not require the reporting of specific chemical identity and therefore no trade secrecy claims may be made with respect to that form.) The submitter shall clearly indicate the specific chemical identity claimed as trade secret by checking the box marked "trade secret" next to the claimed chemical identity.

(ii) A sanitized copy of the Tier II emergency and hazardous chemical inventory form. This copy shall be identical to the document in paragraph (d)(2)(i) of this section except that the submitter shall delete the chemical identity or identities claimed as trade secret and include instead the generic class or category of the chemical claimed as trade secret. The method of choosing generic class or category is set forth in paragraph (f) of this section. The sanitized copy shall be sent by the submitter to the State emergency response commission, local emergency planning committee or the local fire department, whichever entity requested the information.

(iii) A sanitized and unsanitized substantiation in accordance with §350.7 for every chemical identity claimed as trade secret.

(3) If the submitter wishes to claim information in the substantiation as

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trade secret or business confidential, it shall do so in accordance with § 350.7(d).

(4) Section 312 claims shall be sent to the address specified in § 350.16 of this regulation.

(e) Method of asserting claims of trade secrecy for information submitted under section 313.

(1) Submitters may claim as trade secret the specific chemical identity of any chemical subject to reporting under section 313.

(2) To make a claim, the submitter shall submit to EPA the following:

(i) An unsanitized copy of the toxic release inventory form under section 313 with the information claimed as trade secret clearly identified. To do this, the submitter shall check the box on the form indicating that the chemical identity is being claimed as trade secret. The submitter shall enter the generic class or category that is structurally descriptive of the chemical, as specified in paragraph (f) of this section.

(ii) A sanitized copy of the toxic release inventory form. This copy shall be identical to the document in paragraph (e)(2)(i) of this section except that the submitter shall delete the chemical identity claimed as trade secret. This copy shall also be submitted to the State official or officials designated to receive this information.

(iii) A sanitized and unsanitized substantiation in accordance with § 350.7 for every chemical identity claimed as trade secret.

(3) If the submitter wishes to claim information in the substantiation as trade secret or business confidential, it shall do so in accordance with § 350.7(d).

(4) Section 313 claims shall be sent to the address specified in § 350.16 of this regulation.

(f) Method of choosing generic class or category for sections 303, 311, 312 and 313. A facility owner or operator claiming chemical identity as trade secret should choose a generic class or category for the chemical that is structurally descriptive of the chemical.

(g) If a specific chemical identity is submitted under Title III to EPA, or to a State emergency response commission, designated State agency, local emergency planning committee or local fire department, without assert-

ing a trade secrecy claim, the chemical identity shall be considered to have been voluntarily disclosed, and non-trade secret.

(h) A submitter making a trade secrecy claim under this section shall submit to entities other than EPA (e.g., a designated State agency, local emergency planning committee and local fire department) only the sanitized or public copy of the submission and substantiation.

### **§ 350.7 Substantiating claims of trade secrecy.**

(a) Claims of trade secrecy must be substantiated by providing a specific answer including, where applicable, specific facts, to each of the following questions with the submission to which the trade secrecy claim pertains. Submitters must answer these questions on the form entitled "Substantiation to Accompany Claims of Trade Secrecy" in § 350.27 of this subpart.

(1) Describe the specific measures you have taken to safeguard the confidentiality of the chemical identity claimed as trade secret, and indicate whether these measures will continue in the future.

(2) Have you disclosed the information claimed as trade secret to any other person (other than a member of a local emergency planning committee, officer or employee of the United States or a State or local government, or your employee) who is not bound by a confidentiality agreement to refrain from disclosing this trade secret information to others?

(3) List all local, State, and Federal government entities to which you have disclosed the specific chemical identity. For each, indicate whether you asserted a confidentiality claim for the chemical identity and whether the government entity denied that claim.

(4) In order to show the validity of a trade secrecy claim, you must identify your specific use of the chemical claimed as trade secret and explain why it is a secret of interest to competitors. Therefore:

(i) Describe the specific use of the chemical claimed as trade secret, identifying the product or process in which it is used. (If you use the chemical other than as a component of a product